

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/830,532

Examiner

Thomas E. Shortledge

Applicant(s)

IWAHASHI, NAOTO

Art Unit

2654

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Remarks received on 07/13/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,2,4-8,19 and 20.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. This communication is in response to Remarks received on 07/13/2005 and 04/13/2005.
2. In response to the restriction requirement, the applicant has canceled claims 12-14, and 21-22. Claims 1-2, 3-8, and 19-20 are now pending. Claim 1 has been amended, and claim 3 has been canceled. Claims 1, 19 and 20 are independent.
3. In response to the applicants' arguments filed in Remarks received on 04/13/2005, the examiner has fully considered the arguments and found them to be persuasive. The 102(b) rejection of claims 1-2 and 4-7 has been withdrawn. The 103(a) rejection of claim 8 has also been withdrawn.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 1-2, 4-8, and 19-20 are allowed.
5. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Claims 1, 19, and 20 teach a sensor section configured to sense an object related to the input words, generating a sensed output, pre-processing the sensed input to extract feature parameters related to input words, using discriminators to process the feature parameters to generate notation functions, selecting a plurality of discriminated word, generating a set of word trains using all permutations of said plurality of discriminated

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words and calculating the analogousness between each word train using the notation function. The feature parameters include parameters including color, size, shape, position, direction, and/or velocity of said object.

The prior art of record teaches receiving an input along with a parameter related to the input, where the parameter represents a feature of the input. The parameter is used to calculate the similarity between the input and a reference.

The prior art of record does not teach nor fairly suggest using discriminators to process the feature parameters to generate notation functions, selecting a plurality of discriminated word, generating a set of word trains using all permutations of said plurality of discriminated words and calculating the analogousness between each word train using the notation function. The feature parameters include parameters including color, size, shape, position, direction, and/or velocity of said object.

6. Claims 2, and 4-8 are also allowed since they depend upon allowed subject matter.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thomas E. Shortledge whose telephone number is (571)272-7612. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:00 - 4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Richemond Dorvil can be reached on (571)272-7602. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

TS
9/29/05


RICHEMOND DORVIL
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER